REMARKS

The Office Action mailed February 25, 2004, has been received and reviewed. By the present Response and Amendment, Claims 1-27 are pending, and Claims 13, 22, and 25 are amended. No new matter is introduced.

Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(5) because they include the reference sign "30", which the Examiner stated was not mentioned in the description. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Element 30 is clearly defined on page 6, paragraph 28 as referencing a handle. Accordingly, the objection has been addressed, and Applicant requests the Examiner to withdraw this objection.

The Examiner also objected to the drawings as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "28" was used to designate both "aperture 28" and "latch 28." Applicant has amended the drawings, specifically Figures 2, 7a, 7b, and 7c, to use reference character "32" to designate the latch. Applicant attaches hereto the replacement sheets and annotated sheets showing the changes made relative to the previous version. Accordingly, the objection has been addressed, and Applicant requests the Examiner to withdraw this objection.

As for the Examiner's objection to the lead lines that do not designate a reference character, Applicant will remove the lead lines at the time of filing formal drawings.

Specification

Applicant has amended paragraph 1 to conform to the suggestions of the Examiner. Applicant has also amended paragraphs 28 and 33 to conform with the amendments to the drawings. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Examiner stated that the term "and/or" in Claim 25 is confusing and makes the scope of the claim unclear. Applicant has amended the claim to replace the term "and/or" with language omitting the term but having the same meaning. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the rejection is overcome and respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

Applicant does note, however, that this rejection is inconsistent with the actual practice of the Office, as a search of the online U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Full-Text Patent Database indicates that at least 106,622 patents were issued by the Office between 1976 and the present, having the term "and/or" in their claims (search results attached). It is further noted that the term "and/or" is in common usage in current lexicon (see dictionary.com entry attached), and is sufficiently well-understood, such that its use would not be confusing to those of ordinary skill in the art.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,230,915 to Liu. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 1 and 2 are patentably distinguishable from Liu. Claims 1 and 2 recite, "A pet enclosure comprising a frame formed of a substantially rigid, non-porous material; and a flexible, non-porous material woven onto said frame." Liu does not disclose a flexible, *non-porous* material woven onto a frame formed of a substantially rigid, non-porous material, but rather Liu discloses that natural rattan, a porous material, is woven onto a frame. As described in the Applicant's specification, a non-porous material is preferable to a porous material, like natural rattan, because the non-porous material does not absorb

moisture and pet odors. As such, Applicant submits that the Claims are patentably distinct from that disclosed in Liu and requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,318,294 to Richmond et al. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. To be a proper 102(b) reference, the invention must have been patented or described in a printed publication "more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States." U.S. Patent No. 6,318,294 issued on November 20, 2001, which is not more than one year prior to the earliest effective filing date of May 2, 2002 of the U.S. Design Patent Application, nor is it more than one year prior to the filing date of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/394,181, filed July 3, 2002. Both U.S. Design Patent D483156 and U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/394,181 fully support the contents of Claim 22, which recites a pet enclosure comprising a floor panel and a plurality of legs for supporting said floor panel a distance above an underlying support surface. Accordingly, Applicant requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

Nevertheless, to advance prosecution, Applicant has amended Claim 22 to recite, "A pet enclosure comprising a plurality of legs for supporting said pet enclosure a distance above an underlying support surface; and a removable floor panel, wherein the floor panel comprises a channel for receiving a cooperating portion of said pet enclosure." Richmond et al. does not disclose a removable floor panel having a channel for receiving a cooperating portion of the pet enclosure. Accordingly, Applicant submits that amended Claim 22 is patentably distinct from that disclosed in Richmond et al. and requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

Claims 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,192,834 to Kolozsvari. As currently amended, Claim 25 recites, in part, that "at least one of said panels comprise a substantially rigid frame and a plastic material

having the appearance of natural rattan or wicker woven on said frame." As Kolozsvari does not disclose that at least one of the panels comprise a substantially rigid frame and a plastic material having the appearance of natural rattan or wicker woven on the frame, Kolozsvari does not anticipate Claim 25. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the rejection is overcome and respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

Because dependent Claim 26 incorporates the limitations of the claim on which it depends, this dependent claim is allowable for at least the reasons set forth above for the corresponding independent Claim. Thus, as Claim 25 is allowable, Claim 26 is also allowable.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 9 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,230,915 to Liu. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Because dependent Claim 9 incorporates the limitations of the claim on which it depends, this dependent claim is allowable for at least the reasons set forth above for the corresponding independent Claim. Thus, as Claim 1 is allowable, Claim 9 is also allowable.

To further prosecution, Applicant has amended Claim 13 to recite, "A pet enclosure comprising a plurality of panels, each panel comprising a substantially rigid frame and a plastic material having the appearance of natural rattan or wicker woven onto said frame and wherein at least one panel defines an opening therein in which a door is pivotally mounted." Applicant submits that the claim, as currently amended, is not obvious in light of Liu because Liu does not disclose, teach or suggest a door pivotally mounted within one of the panels. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

Claims 3-8, 10 and 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,230,915 to Liu in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,192,834 to Kolozsvari. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Because dependent Claims 3-8, 10, and 14-18 incorporate the limitations of the claims on which they depend, these dependent claims are allowable for at least the reasons set forth above for the corresponding independent Claims. Thus, as Claims 1 and 13 are allowable, Claims 3-8, 10, and 14-18 are also allowable.

Claims 11, 12 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,230,915 to Liu as modified by U.S. Patent No. 6,192,834 to Kolozsvari and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,027,625 to Wheeler. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Because dependent Claims 11, 12, and 19 incorporate the limitations of the claims on which they depend, these dependent claims are allowable for at least the reasons set forth above for the corresponding independent Claims. Thus, as Claim 13 is allowable, Claims 11, 12, and 19 are also allowable.

Claims 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,192,834 to Kolozsvari. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 20 recites, "A pet enclosure comprising an opening in which a door is pivotally mounted to swing both inwardly and outwardly, and further comprising a latch for securing said door in a closed position and in an open position." Contrary to the Examiner's assertions, Kolozsvari does not disclose a door that can swing both inwardly and outwardly. Rather, the door in Kolozsvari is limited to swing outwardly only because a doorframe engages the door when the door is in a closed position. Thus, the doorframe acts as a barrier to prevent the door from swinging inwardly. Moreover, the latch of Kolozsvari can be used to secure the door in a closed position only. The latch cannot be used to secure the door in an open position. To construct a latch that can secure the door

in both an open and a closed position would require the device of Kolozsvari to be modified in a significant, non-obvious manner. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 20 is not obvious in view of Kolozsvari and requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

Because dependent Claim 21 incorporates the limitations of the claim on which it depends, this dependent claim is allowable for at least the reasons set forth above for the corresponding independent Claim. Thus, as Claim 20 is allowable, Claim 21 is also allowable.

Claims 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,192,834 to Kolozsvari in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,027,625 to Wheeler. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 23 recites, "A pet enclosure comprising a frame and a removable floor panel, the floor panel comprising at least one channel for receiving a cooperating portion of said frame." Neither Kolozsvari nor Wheeler, individually or in combination, teaches a floor panel comprising a channel for receiving a cooperating portion of the frame. Kolozsvari teaches a wire frame having tray projections extending from the frame to prevent the accidental removal of the tray. Thus, there is no motivation to combine the teachings of Kolozsvari with the teachings of Wheeler to modify Kolozsvari to include a tray with a channel for receiving a cooperating portion of the frame because Kolozsvari alone teaches a different mechanism for securing the tray. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 23 is not obvious in view of the combination of Kolozsvari and Wheeler and requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

Because dependent Claim 24 incorporates the limitations of the claim on which it depends, this dependent claim is allowable for at least the reasons set forth above for the corresponding independent Claim. Thus, as Claim 23 is allowable, Claim 24 is also allowable.

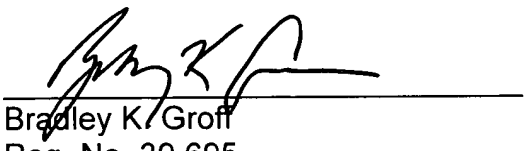
Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,192,834 to Kolozsvari in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,079,458 to Leichtfuss. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Because dependent Claim 27 incorporates the limitations of the claim on which it depends, this dependent claim is allowable for at least the reasons set forth above for the corresponding independent Claim. Thus, as Claim 25 is allowable, Claim 27 is also allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments submitted herein and the above comments, it is believed that all grounds of rejection are overcome and that the application has now been placed in full condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant earnestly solicits early and favorable action. Should there be any further questions or reservations, the Examiner is urged to telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney at (770) 984-2300.

Respectfully submitted,



Bradley K. Groff
Reg. No. 39,695

GARDNER GROFF, P.C.
Paper Mill Village, Building 23
600 Village Trace, Suite 300
Marietta, GA 30067
Tel: 770/984-2300
Fax: 770/984-0098

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Refine Search aclm/"and/or"

	PAT. NO.	Title
1	6,754,886	Method and system for storing java objects in devices having a reduced support of high-level programming concepts
2	6,754,880	Method for automatically laying out semiconductor integrated circuit
3	6,754,840	Over-clocking detection system utilizing a reference signal and thereafter preventing over-clocking by reducing clock rate
4	6,754,812	Hardware predication for conditional instruction path branching
5	6,754,740	Interface apparatus for connecting devices operating at different clock rates, and a method of operating the interface
6	6,754,725	USB peripheral containing its own device driver
7	6,754,699	Content delivery and global traffic management network system
8	6,754,691	Distributed system, access control process and apparatus and program product having access controlling program thereon
9	6,754,672	System and method for efficient integration of government administrative and program systems
10	6,754,661	Hierarchical storage systems for holding evidentiary objects and methods of creating and operating upon hierarchical storage systems
11	6,754,641	Dynamic identification interchange method for exchanging one form of identification for another
12	6,754,638	Web site offering specialty chemicals such as adhesives sealants coatings lubricants cleaners and related equipment in conjunction with access to product support and product usage information
13	6,754,632	Methods and devices for delivering exogenously generated speech signals to enhance

being pumped dry. In another example, if it is determined that two existing oil wells are drilled into the same oil reservoir, then one well could be used as the offset well, eliminating the time and cost of drilling a new offset well. Determining whether one or more wells are drilled into the same reservoir can be achieved in a number of ways. For example, neural networks can be used, as described above. In another example, historical production levels can be used to make the determination (e.g., if production of one well decreases production of another well, the wells may be drilled into the same reservoir). In another example, a pressure gauge can be used on one well, while another well is pressurized (e.g., if pressurizing one well increases the pressure of another, the wells may be drilled into the same reservoir). In another example, the bottom hole pressures of adjacent wells could be compared (it is known in the art that wells having the same bottom hole pressure may be drilled into the same reservoir).

The present invention may also be used to determine the likelihood of success using enhanced oil recovery techniques on an oil and/or gas well. Note that whether a technique is feasible depends on many external factors (e.g., the price and demand of oil, etc.). FIG. **20** is a flowchart illustrating such a process. First, at step **2010**, seismic data is collected in the area in question. Next, at step **2020**, a neural network is developed using training data relating to areas corresponding to successful and unsuccessful oil recovery attempts (either actually successful or assumed). Note that the order of these steps is not essential. At step **2030**, the neural network is applied to the collected seismic data. Finally, at step **2040**, the process determines whether one or more wells is likely to benefit from an enhanced oil recovery technique. Therefore, the present invention greatly increases the success rate of enhanced hydrocarbon recovery efforts by: (1) determining which wells are likely to be producers in an enhanced recovery effort; and (2) determining optimal locations for offset wells.

Alternatives and Closing

While the present invention has been described in the context of using seismic data to delineate hydrocarbon accumulations from seismic data, the present invention is not limited to this particular application. The present invention may be utilized in any number of fields including but not limited to: weather forecasting from radiometers, analysis of aeromagnetic profiles, delineation of astronomical clusters from radio-telescope data, delineation of objects from radar, sonar, and infrared returns, etc.

While the present invention has been described in detail herein in accord with certain preferred embodiments thereof, modifications and changes therein may be effected by those skilled in the art. Accordingly, it is intended by the appended claims to cover all such modifications and changes as fall within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A method of determining locations for offset wells for use in an enhanced oil recovery process in an oil and/or gas field comprising the steps of:

developing an algorithm that iteratively presents a set of seismic data relating to one or more hydrocarbon producing areas and seismic data relating to one or more hydrocarbon non-producing areas to a portion of the algorithm that has a goal of minimizing the error over all of the data by propagating the error value back after each iteration and performing appropriate adjustments to a function that takes on characteristics or patterns in the data;

terminating the algorithm after a sufficient number of iterations for the function to have taken on sufficient characteristics or patterns in the data;

applying the function containing the characteristics or patterns to at least a portion of seismic data collected in the oil and/or gas field to determine areas where hydrocarbons have been produced; and

determining one or more locations for offset wells based on the determined areas where hydrocarbons have been produced.

2. The method of claim **1**, wherein the enhanced oil recovery process includes the introduction of bacteria into an offset well.

3. The method of claim **1**, wherein the enhanced oil recovery process includes the step of applying pressure to an offset well.

4. A method of enhancing the hydrocarbon recovery in an oil and/or gas field having a plurality of wells comprising the steps of:

choosing two or more of the wells in the oil and/or gas field for use with an enhanced hydrocarbon recovery technique;

using at least one of the chosen wells as an injection well for the enhanced hydrocarbon recovery technique; and

using one or more remaining chosen wells as a producing well.

5. The method of claim **4**, wherein the enhanced hydrocarbon recovery technique involves injecting bacteria into one of the wells.

6. The method of claim **5**, wherein the wells are chosen using a neural network.

7. The method of claim **4**, further comprising the step of using a neural network to help choose the wells for use with the enhanced hydrocarbon recovery technique.

8. The method of claim **7**, wherein the neural network is developed to recognize where hydrocarbons have been produced from existing hydrocarbon wells.

9. The method of claim **7**, wherein the neural network is developed to recognize hydrocarbon producing areas and hydrocarbon non-producing areas.

10. The method of claim **7**, wherein the neural network is developed to determine whether two or more wells are drilled into the same reservoir.

11. The method of claim **7**, wherein the enhanced hydrocarbon recovery technique involves injecting bacteria into one of the wells.

12. The method of claim **4**, wherein the two or more wells are chosen using historical well production data.

13. A method of enhancing the hydrocarbon recovery in an oil and/or gas field having a plurality of existing wells comprising the steps of:

using one of the existing wells to create an offset well;

using the offset well for an enhanced hydrocarbon recovery technique; and

using another existing well to produce hydrocarbons.

14. The method of claim **13**, wherein the well used to produce hydrocarbons is one of the existing wells.

15. The method of claim **13**, wherein the well used to produce hydrocarbons is a new well.

16. The method of claim **13**, wherein the enhanced hydrocarbon recovery technique involves injecting bacteria into the offset well.

17. The method of claim **16**, wherein the step of using one of the existing wells to create an offset well further comprises the step of using a neural network to determine optimal locations for an offset well.

knowledge if the application engineer is provided with the respective JAVA BeanItem objects loadFromCard ( ) and saveToCard ( ), respectively.

In conjunction with the co-pending application concerning visual programming of SmartCard applications by using card independent objects the storing and recovering of objects of Java applications can be realized even card-independently using a visual engineering environment: There, a Java interface is provided defining methods for storing and recovering of objects. The application can use such methods as a placeholder, i.e. a dummy in order to define its own SmartCard access procedures, which in turn can be advantageously performed by visual programming techniques, as well. Using the principle presented in that co-pending application the actual implementation of the interface is performed at application runtime and specific for each of the applied SmartCards. Thus, the proper implementation is instantiated depending of the actual used SmartCard in order to serialize the concerned object and to store it onto the SmartCard or to recover it therefrom.

In the foregoing specification the invention has been described with reference to a specific exemplary embodiment thereof. It will, however, be evident that various modifications and changes may be made thereto without departing from the broader spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the appended claims. The specification and drawings are accordingly to be regarded as illustrative rather than in a restrictive sense.

6	host application
7, 8	SmartCards
9	interface
10, 12	objects
110–156	steps comprised of the inventional method

What is claimed is:

1. A method for storing objects in devices having a reduced resources of high-level programming support, in which said objects are associated with both an application implemented on such device and a host application running on a host computer, the method comprising a step of:

providing an interface between the host application and the device application, said interface being associated with said objects and comprising methods being able to be performed on the attributes associated with said objects,

the method being characterized by the step of:

serializing, contiguously, attributes and methods of said objects into a format applicable to said devices.

2. The method according to claim 1, in which said reduced resources computer devices are SmartCards.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein serializing is performed with Java Class technology by providing a serializing BeanItem.

4. The method according to claim 1, in which said objects are packed in tag, length, value formatted form and/or compressed prior to storing said objects.

5. A method for recovering objects from devices having reduced resources for high-level programming support in which said objects are associated with both an application implemented on such device and a host application running on a host computer, the method comprising a step of:

providing an interface between said host application and said device application, said interface being associated with said objects and comprising methods being able to be performed on the attributes associated with said objects

the method being characterized by the step of

de-serializing contiguous attributes.and methods of said objects from a format applicable on said devices.

6. The method according to claim 5, in which said devices are SmartCards.

7. The method according to claim 5, wherein de-serializing is performed with Java Class technology by providing a de-serializing BeanItem.

8. The method according to claim 5, further comprising the step of reading said objects onto or from said device, wherein said objects are uncompressed and/or unpacked from tag, length, value formatted form after reading said objects.

9. A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for storing objects in devices having a reduced resources of high-level programming support, in which said objects are associated with both an application implemented on such device and a host application running on a host computer, the method steps comprising:

providing an interface between the host application and the device application, said interface being associated with said objects and comprising methods being able to be performed on the attributes associated with said objects,

the method being characterized by the steps of

serializing, contiguously, attributes and methods of said objects into a format applicable to said devices; and

de-serializing contiguous attributes and methods of said objects from a format applicable on said devices.

10. The method according to claim 9, in which said reduced resources computer devices are SmartCards.

11. The method according to claim 9, wherein serializing is performed with Java Class technology by providing a serializing BeanItem.

12. The method according to claim 9, in which said objects are packed in tag, length, value formatted form and/or compressed prior to storing said objects.

13. The method according to claim 9, wherein de-serializing is performed with Java Class technology by providing a de-serializing BeanItem.

14. The method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of reading said objects onto or from said device, wherein said objects are uncompressed and/or unpacked from tag, length, value formatted form after reading said objects.

* * * * *

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2 entries found for *and/or*.

and/or Pronunciation Key (ăn'dôr')
conj.

Used to indicate that either or both of the items connected by it are involved.

Usage Note: *And/or* is widely used in legal and business writing. Its use in general writing to mean "one or the other or both" is acceptable but can appear stilted. See Usage Note at or[1].

[Download or Buy Now]
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and/or

Both or either of two options. For example, *His use of copyrighted material shows that the writer is careless and/or dishonest.* This idiom originated in legal terminology of the mid-1800s.

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ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES

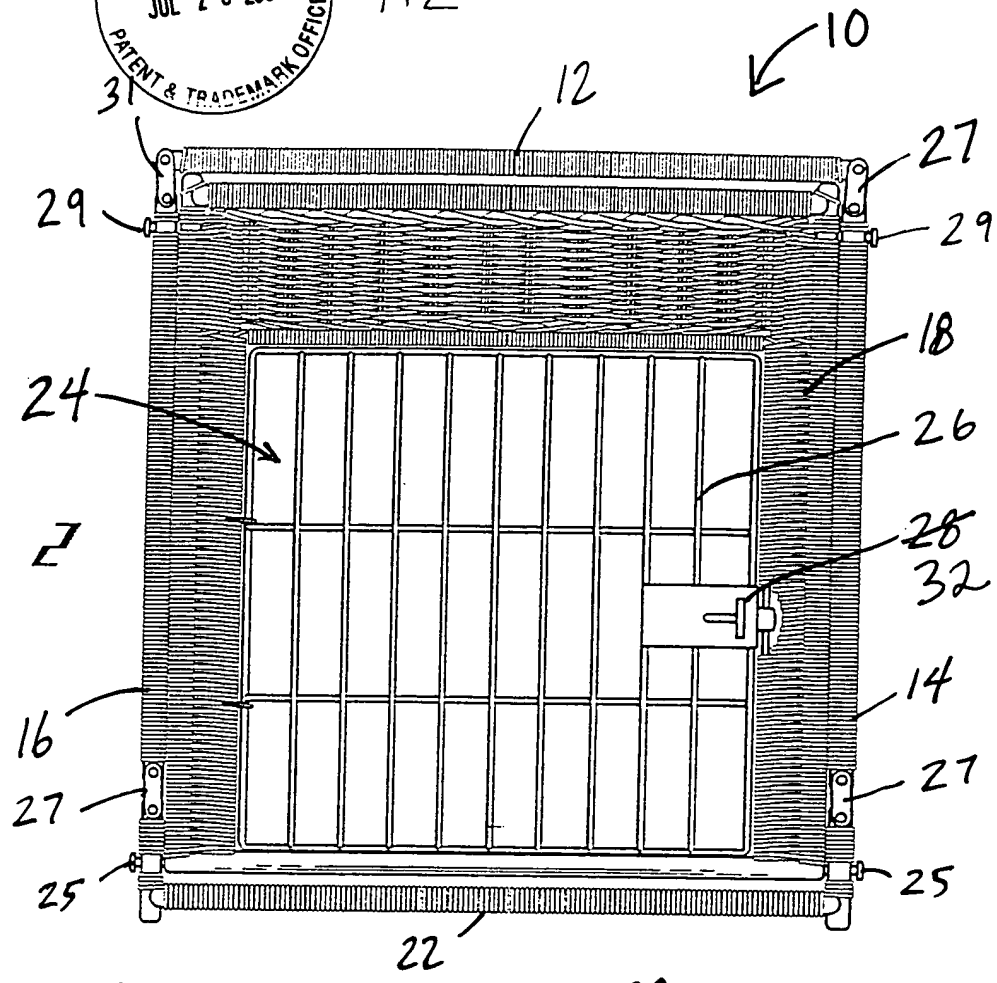

Fig. 2

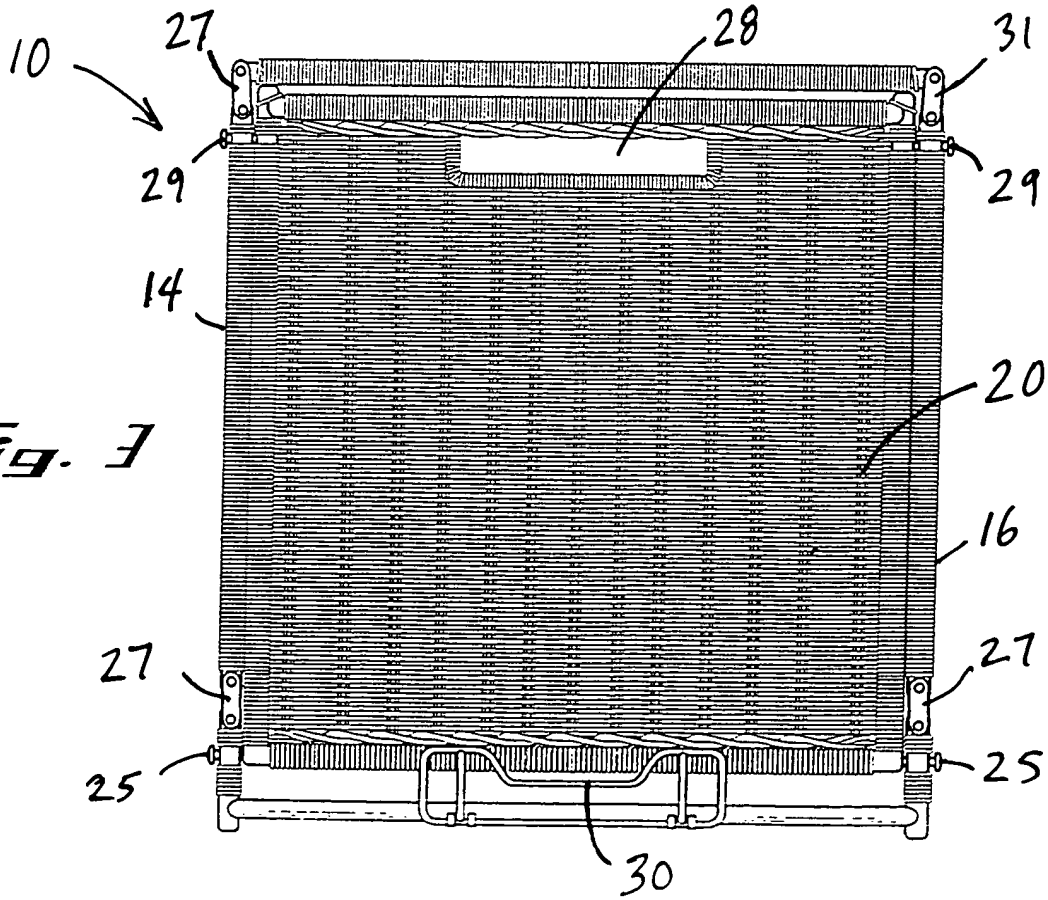

Fig. 3

ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES

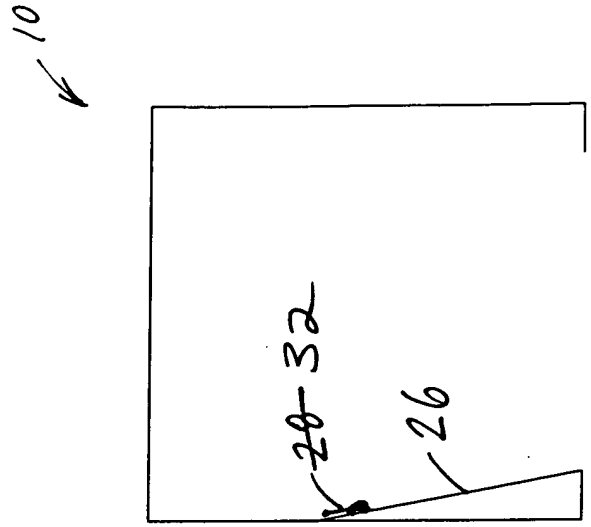

FIG. 7c

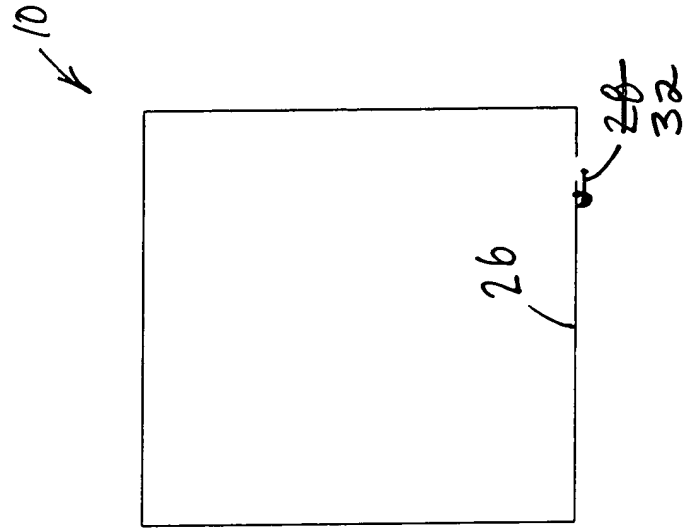

FIG. 7b

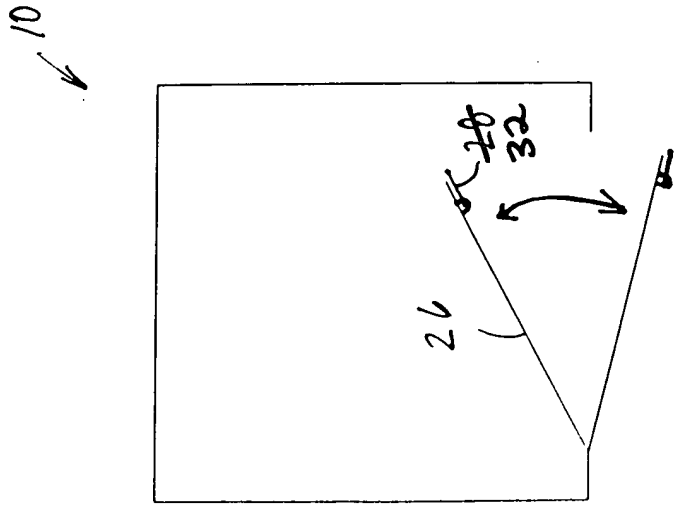

FIG. 7a